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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 052250-5016

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )

Michael A. FISCHER )

Application No.: 09/292,152 )

Filed: April 15, 1999 )

For: EARLY SUPPRESSION FAST RESPONSE )  
FIRE PROTECTION SPRINKLER )

Confirmation No.: 3148

Group Art Unit: 3752

Examiner: D. Nguyen

*Ext June*  
*#27/EO*  
*12/4/03*  
*Heuer*

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
2011 South Clark Place  
**Customer Window, Mail Stop RCE**  
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03  
Arlington, VA 22202

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

In response to the Final Office Action dated October 22, 2002, the period of response extending through November 24, 2003 (November 22 being a Saturday), by the concurrently filed petition for a five-month extension of time from the filing of the Notice of Appeal on April 22, 2003, the corresponding fee payment, and the Request for Continued Examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

11/26/2003 HDENESS1 00000098 500310 09292152  
02 FC:1255 2010.00 DA